

SANTA ROSA COUNTY

COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP)

APPENDIX 4 to ANNEX C:

SANTA ROSA COUNTY EVACUATION PLAN

SANTA ROSA COUNTY EVACUATION PLAN

I. PURPOSE

To evacuate residents and visitors from any natural or technological disaster that affects Santa Rosa County directly or indirectly.

II. SCOPE

A. Most evacuations will be local (county) in scope and actions will be initiated following a decision by the local governing body. In such cases, the evacuation will be coordinated and administered by county officials. During any county administered evacuation that does not require activation of the State Emergency Operation Center, state assistance will be provided by various state agencies under normal statutory authority through coordination by DEM.

B. County emergency management authorities may direct county evacuation, open shelters and request state assistance. County authorities may also activate mutual aid agreements with neighboring counties and may broker mutual aid agreements between municipalities within the county. Brokering must be involved for the county to track mutual aid between municipalities.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATION

A. An evacuation order may be issued during a localized emergency by the Incident Commander or when an impending or actual disaster has occurred by County Officials. When a Disaster Emergency is declared, an evacuation order may be added for the population of the affected area. The Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator or Emergency Management Director can issue this order. The Florida Governor may also issue an evacuation order. Evacuation is the orderly removal of people from an area threatened by disaster to a place of safety. Evacuation may be necessary for several reasons. Hurricane is the most likely reason for mass evacuation and presents the most intense evacuation scenario. Government has the responsibility to determine when an evacuation is needed, who makes the decision to evacuate and the method. Evacuation due to a hazardous material incident, fire or other disaster may require some improvisation as the threatened population is not always readily identifiable until the event occurs. Also the number of people requiring evacuation fluctuates with the size of event and other factors such as weather and time of year. Evacuation is ideally executed during daylight hours for additional safety.

B. The evacuation will be coordinated and administered by county officials using county resources in accordance with county evacuation plans. County officials may declare a voluntary or mandatory evacuation order for the affected areas. During a multi-county, regional or interregional evacuation, the Governor or the GAR may issue an evacuation order in support of a local order. The type of evacuation and circumstances may determine the evacuation actions in Santa Rosa County. Routes, affected areas, evacuation clearance times, time of day, etc., influence decision-making. Other issues include determining regional evacuation routes,

directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter, ensuring the sufficiency of reasonably priced fuel and addressing any emergency medical issues relative to evacuation.

C. Mandatory Evacuation: An organized and official evacuation, ordering residents to leave an area of danger. Every effort short of forceful removal of residents will be employed to encourage evacuation, i.e. personal appeal by local officials and other methods of persuasion. Local government coordinates shelter openings to house evacuating residents. By policy, this method would only be used when directed by a Governor's Executive Order.

D. Voluntary Evacuation: A requested evacuation, while not mandatory, because an impending disaster may occur. Shelters will be opened as needed.

E. Decisions including the cancellation of reservations and refunds to evacuating guest are an individual business responsibility in accordance with the respective emergency policies.

F. Santa Rosa County Evacuation Times: Northwest Florida Hurricane Evacuation Study (1999) indicates that when the order is given to evacuate, the worst-case evacuation time is twelve hours and fifteen minutes. This time is for evacuating the Category 5 Evacuation Zones. Bridge closures and other events may increase that time.

IV. PRIMARY AGENCY: Santa Rosa County Division of Emergency Management.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

A. Santa Rosa County Emergency Management Director or his/her assistant with the approval of the SRC Board of County Commissioners will make the determination to evacuate people from possible affected areas. In the case of hazardous materials event, the Incident Commander will make the determination to evacuate or shelter in place the people in the affective area.

1. Since larger scale evacuations will involve populations of the region without respect to county/state lines, evacuees from other jurisdictions may compete for the use of evacuation routes.

2. A critical activity during the evacuation decision phase is coordination with neighboring counties (Escambia and Okaloosa in Florida and Escambia in Alabama), municipalities (Milton, Gulf Breeze and Jay) and military installations.

B. ESF 6 - Mass Care will coordinate shelter operations and food for evacuees.

C. ESF 18 - Special Needs will notify People With Special Needs located in the affected area and ensure transportation requirements are met.

D. Law Enforcement agencies will provide traffic control, protection, security, augment warning and communications, supervise evacuation and integrate special emergency

functions into normal functions of their respective departments.

F. Fire Departments provide manpower for evacuation notification, if needed. Provide fire protection in urban, suburban and rural areas and perform rescue operations as needed to save lives.

G. County and municipality Engineers, SRC Public Works Department and FDOT provide services necessary to keep routes open for evacuation of citizens. See Figure C-4-2.

H. State Actions

1. In the event the Governor or the GAR issues an evacuation order in support of a local order. This decision will be made following consultation with the SCO, the Deputy SCO for Response, the SERT leader and representatives of the impacted counties.

2. Evacuation Actions - In the event of evacuation, state assistance and support will be coordinated from the SEOC.

3. All state assistance and support of such evacuations will be coordinated from the SEOC under the direction and control of the SERT leader. The following types of decisions will be made after coordination between the SERT leader, the affected ESF and the impacted counties.

- a. Lifting tolls on roadways in the impacted counties.
- b. Coordinating regional, interregional and statewide emergency communication.
- c. Coordinating the mechanics of the evacuation, i.e., identification and designation of regional, interregional and/or statewide evacuation route, mobilization, deployment and placement of security personnel to direct traffic flow and initiation and cancellation of evacuation orders to ensure the safety of evacuees.
- d. Coordinating measures to ensure that sufficient and reasonably priced fuel is available.
- e. Coordinating the closure of bridges in the impacted areas, which is a Law Enforcement decision.
- f. Coordinating resources and actions to deal with the possibility of directing any evacuees caught on evacuation routes to safer surroundings.
- g. Coordinating with affected counties concerning any issues dealing with emergency medical evacuations.
- h. Early coordination with representatives of all agencies involved in

an evacuation to review travel routes, personnel sent home to prepare their personal affairs to return to duty, early voluntary evacuation recommended, special needs and special facilities as well as mobile home parks campgrounds and recreational parks to start evacuation process.

i. The closing of schools will be announced by the Superintendent of Schools and the SRC PIO will provide news releases announcing the status of County services including county offices.

VI. METHODS OF NOTIFICATIONS TO EVACUATE

A. Media

1. Radio
2. Television

B. County Automated Telephone System, DIALOGIC.

C. Siren systems located in Pace for Air Products incidents and the siren system in Jay for Exxon incidents.

VII. HURRICANE CONDITIONS and PROCEDURES

Santa Rosa County will operate under the following conditions in the event the County is threatened by tropical storm or hurricane landfall in the immediate area for the purposes of preparation:

A. Hurricane Condition # 4: Seventy-two (72) hours prior to the forecasted arrival of tropical storm force winds (above 39 mph).

B. Hurricane Condition # 3: Forty-eight (48) hours prior to the forecasted arrival of tropical storm force winds.

C. Hurricane Condition # 2: Twenty-four (24) hours prior to the forecasted arrival of tropical storm force winds.

D. Hurricane Condition # 1: Twelve (12) hours prior to the forecasted arrival of tropical storm force winds.

E. Hurricane Categories

Category	Winds (mph)	Storm Surge (ft)
1	74-95	4-5
2	96-110	6-8
3	111-130	9-12

4	131-155	13-18
5	Over 155	Over 18

F. Hurricane condition #4 Actions (72 hours)

1. Emergency Management Director will notify the Board of County Commissioners of the situation.
2. Briefing will be held with representatives of all agencies involved in the evacuation, sheltering, public assistance, etc.
3. Evacuation routes will be reviewed, problem areas discussed and solutions identified.
4. Dissemination of public information will begin with a recommended early voluntary evacuation notice, if necessary.

G. Hurricane condition #3 Actions (48 hours)

1. Dissemination of public information will continue.
2. American Red Cross will begin preparation for possible shelter openings.
3. Notify Overflow Evacuation Center staff and place on standby.
4. Personnel will be placed on standby and availability/assignment to teams confirmed.
5. Personnel required having responsibilities during the storm will be sent home to prepare their families and property.
6. All campgrounds, recreational parks and mobile home parks will be individually advised to start hurricane preparedness and evacuation.

H. Hurricane condition #2 Actions (24 hours)

1. EOC activated.
2. Evacuation of appropriate areas will begin subject to location, category and speed of the hurricane. Navarre Beach, Bay Breeze Nursing and Retirement Center, The Friary, Twelve Oaks, Gulf Breeze Hospital and mobile homes will begin evacuation. Schools on the peninsula will close classes.
3. Public will be kept informed through appropriate media including the Citizens' Information Lines at the EOC.

4. Primary shelters will be opened by the American Red Cross to adequately handle evacuees. The County Department of Health will assist in establishing a Special Health Needs Evacuation Center.

5. All Emergency Management personnel and Emergency Operations Center personnel (ESF) will report to assignments.

6. Special Needs evacuation will begin with coordination between Santa Rosa School District Transportation Office and ESF 18 – Special Needs.

7. Available aircraft (SRSO, Division of Forestry, Florida Highway Patrol and Civil Air Patrol) will provide aerial surveillance of evacuation routes.

I. Hurricane condition #1 Actions (12 hours)

1. EOC fully activated with all agency representatives present.

2. Evacuation should be complete.

3. All non-essential personnel should be removed from evacuation area. Essential personnel will evacuate as conditions warrant.

4. Based on the recommendation by the Emergency Management Director, the BOCC will approve a Local Disaster Declaration at the appropriate time in this sequence.

VIII. EVACUATION ZONES (For Map see Figure C-4-1).

A. Category 1

1. All of Navarre Beach. Gulf Breeze Peninsula (Navarre, Midway, Gulf Breeze, and Holley) - All waterfront areas and all residents who live within ¼ mile (1300 feet) of water from the Okaloosa County Line along Santa Rosa Sound continuing around Gulf Breeze into Escambia Bay, East Bay and East River.

2. In East Milton all waterfront areas along Blackwater Bay, the Blackwater and Yellow Rivers and all residents who live within ½ mile (2600 feet) of these bodies of water. In Milton the area south of Walker Street and to the east of Henry Street. In Bagdad area east of Forsyth Street, and along Blackwater Bay to the east for ¼ mile (1300 feet). In Dickerson City and Garcon Point – All areas within ½ mile (2600 feet) of the water.

3. Avalon Beach, Mulat & Floridatown – All waterfront areas along Escambia Bay and from Garcon Point to Trout Bayou and those areas within a distance of ¼ mile (1300 feet) of the water. From Trout Bayou north to I-10 a distance of 1 mile or to Avalon Blvd. The area along Escambia Bay, North of I-10 to Cyanamid Road for a distance of 1 mile from the Bay. From Cyanamid Road to Highway 90, all areas within ¼ mile to Escambia Bay.

B. Category 2 and 3

1. All of Navarre Beach. Gulf Breeze Peninsula (Navarre, Midway, Gulf Breeze, Holley) – All waterfront areas and residents who live within ½ mile (2600 feet) of the water along Santa Rosa Sound from the Okaloosa County Line to the East border of Gulf Island National Seashore. For a distance of ¼ mile (1300 feet) around Gulf Breeze in Escambia Bay, East Bay, and East River.

2. Holley – All waterfront areas for a distance of 1 mile starting on the North side of East River continuing along East Bay through Holley to Eglin Wildlife Management area, with special emphasis on the creeks and canals in the area.

3. East Milton – All areas along Ward Basin Road for a distance of 1 mile to the East from the road center, except the area from Airport Road to Highway 90. Along Blackwater River north of Highway 90 for a distance of ½ mile (2600 feet) from the banks.

4. Milton – All of the area south of the Blackwater Heritage Trail to Blackwater River and the area from Canal Street and Henry Street to the River. Bagdad – The area East of Forsyth Street and Garcon Point Road to Garcon Point.

5. Avalon Beach, Mulat & Floridatown) – All of the area to the west of Avalon Blvd, from the CSX Rail Line. From the CSX Rail Line to Highway 90 for a distance of 1 mile along Escambia Bay. All other area subject to flooding from a storm surge or heavy rainfall such as rivers, creeks, streams and areas with poor drainage systems.

C. Category 4 and 5

1. All of Navarre Beach. Gulf Breeze Peninsula (Navarre, Midway, Gulf Breeze and Holley) - All of the area from the City of Gulf Breeze to Ocean Breeze Lane, or 5 ½ miles from the east boundary of Gulf Island National Seashore along Gulf Breeze Parkway. Residents who live within ½ mile (2600 feet) of the water along Santa Rosa Sound from the Okaloosa County Line to Ocean Breeze Lane. For a distance of 1 mile from the water along East Bay and East River through Holley to the Eglin Wildlife Management area.

2. East Milton – All areas along and for a distance of 1 mile to the east of Ward Basin Road, except the area from the south of Airport Road to Highway 90. Milton – All of the area south of Blackwater Heritage Trail to Blackwater River. The area south of Caroline Street S.W., and Old Highway 90 to the river. Bagdad – Along Pond Creek for a distance of ½ mile from the waterfront. The area east of Forsyth Street and Garcon Point Road to the river as far as I-10. All of the remaining area south of I-10. Garcon Point – All of the area south of I-10.

3. Avalon Beach, Mulat & Floridatown – All of the area to the west of Avalon Blvd, from the CSX Rail Line. From the CSX Rail Line north of Highway 90 for a distance of 1 mile from the water along Escambia Bay.

4. Harold – Along the Yellow River for a distance of 1 mile from the

riverbank.

5. All other areas subject to flooding from a storm surge or heavy rainfall such as rivers, creeks, streams, and areas with poor drainage systems.

IX. TORNADOES

Evacuation from tornadoes cannot be determined prior to arrival. Emergency Management personnel and the Fire Chief of the respective fire district will survey all damage areas that are received by the SRC Emergency Communications Center. Depending on the severity of the storm, personnel could be evacuated to the nearest comfort station. Assistance may be requested from the American Red Cross of Northwest Florida and other agencies.

X. FLOODING

A. Flooding in the county can result from storm surge, overflowing of rivers and creeks or ponding. Any time a substantial amount of rainfall has occurred locally or in Southern Alabama, the river and creek conditions and known areas where ponding has occurred in the past will be monitored closely.

B. Notification of evacuation will be given to residences that may be affected by rising waters.

XI. FIRES

A. When structures are threatened by fire, the situation is monitored by selected agencies in support of the Incident Commander. These agencies will respond if needed to support local evacuation.

B. The Incident Commander will implement the decision to evacuate in coordination with other agencies involved.

XII. Hazardous Materials Incident

A. There is a chance of a hazardous material incident each day. It could happen along Highway 98, in the intercostals waterways, Highway 87, Garcon Pt. Road/Avalon Blvd., I-10, Hwy 90 and the miles of railways. Private companies, such as Air Products, Sterling Fibers, Exxon and Solutia (although the latter is located in Escambia County but in close proximity to our County) present continuous risks. Private water companies, water treatment plants and sewage treatment plants located through the county and normally found near homes and schools must also be considered.

B. The Santa Rosa County Hazardous Materials Plan, hazards analysis date and the ERG will be used in evacuation decisions for incidents affecting Santa Rosa County.

C. Whenever an incident occurs, regardless of size, it will be monitored closely. The

Incident Commander will make the determination and direct the evacuation, if required.

D. Resident notification in the event of an incident at Air Products (Pace) and Exxon (Jay) that require evacuation will be accomplished via siren system and the county Automated Telephone Notification System at the direction of the Incident Commander.

Figure C-4-1

Santa Rosa County Evacuation Zone

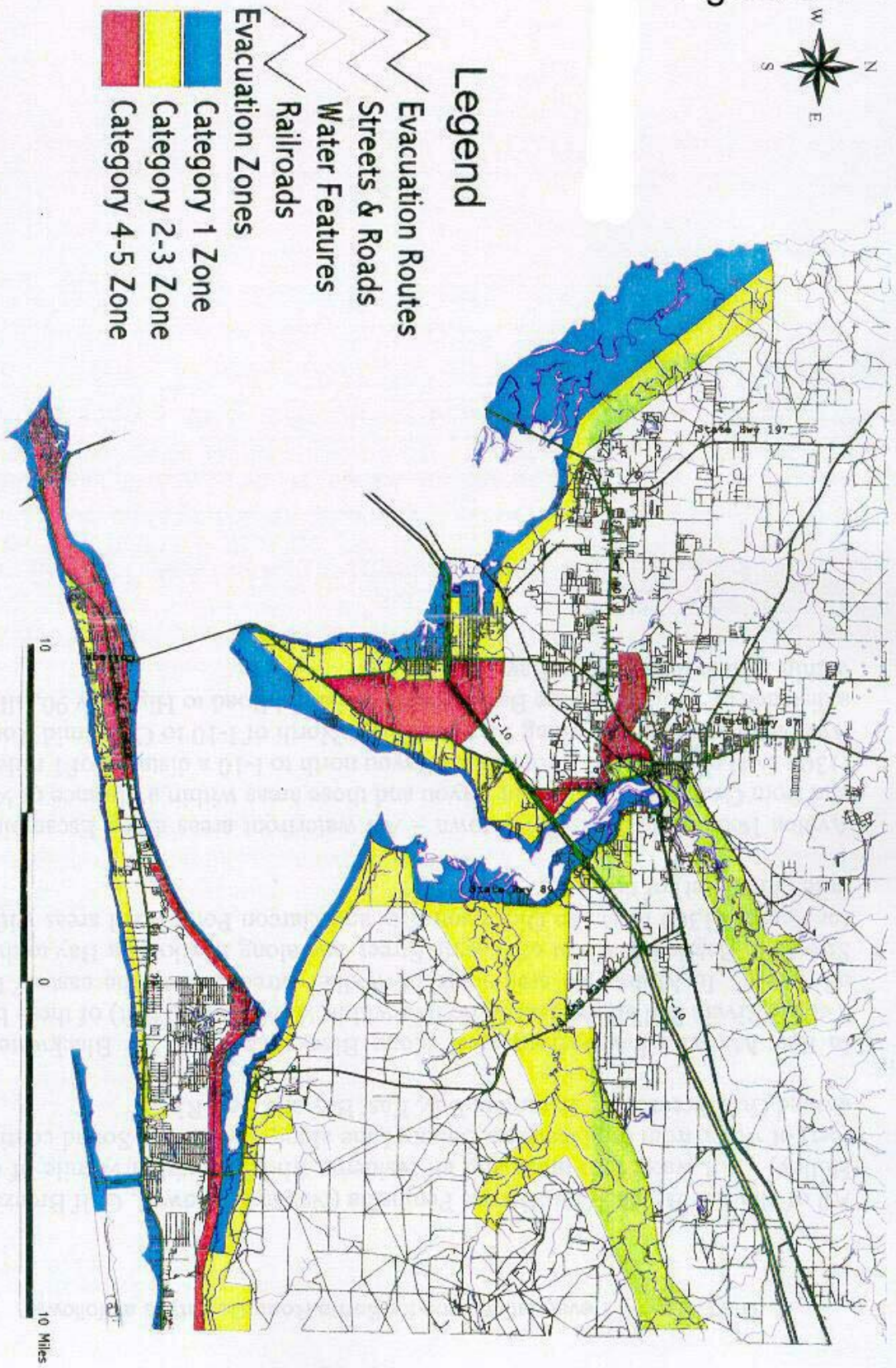


Figure C-4-2

